

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A capsule [(1)] used to prepare an infused beverage, comprising a first container [(6)] made of a substantially flexible material and containing a powdered infusion substance [(MI)], and a second container [(2)], attached to the first container [(6)], made of a substantially rigid material and containing a powdered soluble substance [(MS)], wherein at least the top of the capsule is covered by a removable sheet [(10)] of protective material and the flexible first container [(6)] comprises a self-contained and fully enclosed pod made of filter paper or other similar filter material placed inside the first second container, and wherein ~~the filter paper or filter material of the self-contained and fully enclosed~~ pod contains the powdered infusion substance (MI) therein and is revealed after the removable sheet [(10)] has been removed, and a bottom surface of the second container has a hole, covered by a seal of suitable material designed to be opened or pierced and to re-close the hole when the capsule is removed after being used.

2. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the flexible first container [(6)] is attached to the rigid second container [(2)] by heat sealing.

3. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the flexible first container [(6)] is attached to the rigid second container [(2)] by gluing.

4. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the flexible first container [(6)] is attached to the rigid second container [(2)] by ultrasound sealing.

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to any of the foregoing claims from 1 to 4, characterised in that the rigid second container [(2)] comprises a cartridge [(2)] made of a food safe plastic material.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1 [(8)], characterised in that the seal [(5)] constitutes a portion of the bottom surface [(3)] of the cartridge [(2)].

10. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1 [(8)], characterised in that the rigid second container [(2)] comprises a cartridge [(2)] made of a food safe plastic material; the seal [(5)] constitutes a portion of the bottom surface [(3)] of the cartridge [(2)]; and the pod [(6)] of filter paper has an annular outer edge [(8)] fixed to a matching annular protuberance [(9)] on the plastic cartridge [(2)], at the top [(7)] of the cartridge [(2)] itself.

11. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 10, characterised in that the sheet [(10)] of protective cover material is removably placed over the top of the filter paper pod [(6)]; the sheet [(10)] being fixed to the edge of the outer protuberance [(9)] of the cartridge [(2)].

12. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the infusion substance [(MI)] comprises powdered coffee.

13. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the soluble substance [(MS)] comprises powdered milk and/or creamer and similar soluble substances.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1, characterised in that the rigid second container [(2)] comprises a cartridge [(2)] made of a food safe plastic material.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 1 [[17]], characterised in that the seal [[(5)]] constitutes a portion of the bottom surface [[(3)]] of the cartridge [[(2)]].

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) The capsule according to claim 9, characterised in that the rigid second container [[(2)]] comprises a cartridge [[(2)]] made of a food safe plastic material; the seal [[(5)]] constitutes a portion of the bottom surface [[(3)]] of the cartridge [[(2)]]; and the pod [[(6)]] of filter paper has an annular outer edge [[(8)]] fixed to a matching annular protuberance [[(9)]] on the plastic cartridge [[(2)]], at the top [[(7)]] of the cartridge [[(2)]] itself.

22. (Currently Amended) A capsule [[(1)]] used to prepare an infused beverage, comprising a first container [[(6)]] made of a substantially flexible material and containing a powdered infusion substance [[(MI)]], and a second container [[(2)]], attached to the first container [[(6)]], made of a substantially rigid material and containing a powdered soluble substance [[(MS)]], wherein the bottom surface [[(3)]] of the second container [[(2)]] has a hole [[(4)]] in it, covered by a seal [[(5)]] of suitable material designed to be pierced when the capsule has to be used, and to re-close the hole when the capsule has already been used, and wherein the first container

~~comprises the powdered infusion substance [(MI)] is retained in a self-contained and fully enclosed filter membrane pod containing the powdered infusion substance and that is placed contained withinin within the first second container, and the self-contained and fully enclosed filter membrane pod is revealed~~ after a removable sheet has been removed from a top surface of the capsule.

23. (Currently Amended) A capsule [(1)] used to prepare an infused beverage, comprising a first container [(6)] made of a substantially flexible material and containing a powdered infusion substance [(MI)], and a second container [(2)], attached to the first container [(6)], made of a substantially rigid material and containing a powdered soluble substance [(MS)], wherein the rigid second container [(2)] comprises a cartridge [(2)] made of a food safe plastic material and the flexible first container (6) ~~retains therein~~ comprises a self-contained and fully enclosed pod made of filter paper or other similar filter material having an annular outer edge [(8)] fixed to a matching annular protuberance [(9)] on the plastic cartridge [(2)], at the top [(7)] of the cartridge [(2)], wherein the ~~filter paper or filter material of the self-contained and fully enclosed~~ pod contains the powdered infusion substance [(MI)] therein and is revealed after a cover sealing the capsule is removed from a top surface of the capsule.